

The Need For Motor Vehicle Inspection

There are three factors involved which contribute to the overall traffic crash experience. They are the driver, the roadway, and the vehicle. All of us have seen vehicles that prove many owners fail to properly maintain their vehicles. The function of the Missouri State Highway Patrol's Motor Vehicle Inspection Program is to identify defective vehicles, requiring them to either be repaired or be removed from Missouri highways. How, then, are we to accomplish this? The only way to be reasonably certain vehicles are maintained mechanically safe is through periodic motor vehicle inspection. Since the program began in 1969, over one million defects have been identified annually. This has contributed to the continual decrease in the death rate per 100 million miles.



Have A Question Or A Problem?

There may come a time when you have a question or a problem concerning Missouri's Motor Vehicle Inspection Program. The Missouri State Highway Patrol is vitally interested in seeing that the program is administered properly and that the vehicle owner is treated fairly. If you should have any questions or problems, please call the troop headquarters or satellite in your area or the Driver and Vehicle Safety Division in Jefferson City, MO.

Missouri State Highway Patrol



Motor Vehicle Inspection Offices

Troop A	Lee's Summit	(816) 622-0717
Troop B	Macon	(660) 385-6674 Ext:3236
Troop C	St. Louis	(314) 416-2180 Ext:4357
	Park Hills	(573) 431-0166 Ext:4362
Troop D	Springfield	(417) 895-6767 Ext:3423
	Carthage	(417) 359-1505 Ext:4567
Troop E	Poplar Bluff	(573) 840-9500 Ext:3525
	Sikeston	(573) 472-5203 Ext:6513
Troop F	Jefferson City	(573) 526-6262 Ext:3677
Troop G	Willow Springs	(417) 469-3121 Ext:3730
Troop H	St. Joseph	(816) 387-2345 Ext:3846
Troop I	Rolla	(573) 368-2221 Ext:3968

General Headquarters
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Frequently Asked Questions About Motor Vehicle Inspection

1. **Q** When is a motor vehicle safety inspection required?

A. The Missouri Department of Revenue provides oversight to motor vehicle registration requirements. Inspection requirements related to motor vehicle registration may be viewed at <https://dor.mo.gov/motor-vehicle/additional-help-resources.html#safety>. Inspection requirements related to the sale of a motor vehicle may be viewed at <https://dor.mo.gov/motor-vehicle/selling-a-vehicle.html>.

2. **Q** Who can perform motor vehicle safety inspections?

A. Individuals 17 years of age or older, with at least one year of practical experience as an automotive mechanic or having successfully completed a course of vocational instruction in automotive mechanics from a generally recognized educational institution, are eligible to apply for inspector/mechanic licensure. Applicants must demonstrate knowledge and ability to conduct an inspection in compliance with established regulations in order to receive an inspector/mechanic license. Only individuals licensed as inspector/mechanics by the Missouri State Highway Patrol are authorized to perform motor vehicle safety inspections.

3. **Q** If the vehicle is rejected and repairs are made elsewhere, must I show a repair bill to the inspection station at the time of reinspection?

A. No, since the inspector/mechanic visually rejected the vehicle, he must visually reinspect it. The reinspection shall take place in the area approved for inspection purposes. In most

cases, the vehicle would have to be inspected inside the approved area.

4. **Q** How long should I have to wait at the inspection station before I receive an inspection?

A. Inspection station operators and/or inspector/mechanics are obligated to conduct inspections and reinspections of vehicles during normal business hours. A vehicle shall be inspected within two hours after being presented unless other vehicles are being inspected. When a vehicle is presented during the 20 day period for reinspections, a reinspection must begin within one hour.

5. **Q** How much time does a person have to get their defects corrected before they must pay an additional fee?

A. If a person returns the vehicle to the original inspection station within 20 days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays, the rejected items will be reinspected at no additional cost. The inspection station is only required to perform one free reinspection.

6. **Q** If I have a complaint against an inspection station, who do I tell?

A. Complaints regarding motor vehicle safety inspection stations should be directed to the Motor Vehicle Inspection office at the nearest Missouri State Highway Patrol troop headquarters.

7. **Q** What items are necessary for a person to take with them to the inspection station?

A. The only items required for an inspection are the fee and the vehicle to be inspected. Proof of ownership and renewal notices are not necessary. The inspector/mechanic should obtain the needed information from the vehicle and the person presenting the vehicle.

8. **Q** Can a vehicle which does not have a valid registration (license) be operated to an inspection station?

A. Yes, but only for the purpose of obtaining an inspection and over the most direct route between the owner's usual place of residence and an inspection station. If repairs are needed, the vehicle may be operated from the inspection station to a place of repair and returned for reinspection provided the repairs are made within 20 days.

These Items Will Be Inspected

